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### HEARD AT THE CONCERT

By A. LODGE

The program promised Grieg and Brahms,  
 Debussy, Elgar, Schumann, Scott;  
 The music-lover rubbed his palms  
 And leaned back to enjoy the lot.  
 "Piano, voice, and violin,"  
 Said he, "delight my soul within."  
 And by anticipation stirred,  
 He listened; this is what he heard:

He heard the shuffling tramp of feet  
 As late arrivals sought their rows;  
 The slam of many a tip-up seat;  
 The groans evoked by wounded toes.  
 He heard the hissing, whispered joke;  
 The rustling clothes of restless folk;  
 The needless cough; the luckless sneeze;  
 The stick that slips from slanting knees.

He heard why someone broke it off  
 With James, and made it up with John;  
 He heard his next row neighbors scoff  
 At what the vocalist had on.  
 He also heard (for who could fail?)  
 The mimic storm of rattling hail  
 As all in unison the throng  
 Their programs turned through a song.

He heard somewhere astern, abaft,  
 A far too often opened door;  
 He heard from those who felt the draught  
 A murmuring like the ocean's roar.  
 All this and more he heard quite plain  
 As there he sat distraught with pain;  
 But hardly one whole phrase he got  
 Of Brahms, Debussy, Grieg, or Scott!